

CLAIMS

1. A vertebral fixing system adapted to be mounted on a vertebra of the spine to connect it to a rod (10), said vertebra having a posterior wall in the vicinity of which
5 said rod extends and lateral walls from which project ribs and/or transverse processes, which vertebral fixing system is characterized in that it comprises:
- a connecting part (12) adapted to face said rib and/or said transverse process and to be connected to
10 said rod (10);
 - an elongate flexible ligature (42) adapted to connect together said connecting part and at least one rib and/or one transverse process; and
 - adjustable locking means (36) fastened to said
15 connecting part and adapted to fix simultaneously in position said connecting part relative to said rod and at least one portion of said ligature relative to said connecting part, so as to prevent relative displacement of said rod (10) and said vertebra in opposite
20 directions.
2. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 1, characterized in that said connecting part (12) includes a passage (48) facing said rod and said ligature (42)
25 passes through the adjustable locking means to reduce the section of said passage in order to press said ligature against said rod (10) and simultaneously to fix said connecting part and at least one portion of said ligature in position relative to said rod.
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3. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that said ligature (42) has a first end (44) fastened to said connecting part (12) and a free second end (46) adapted to slide in said
35 connecting part and to be formed into a loop, a portion of said ligature between said ends being adapted to be immobilized in translation relative to said connecting

part by said adjustable locking means, whereby the loop has a particular length.

4. A vertebral fixing system according to any one of
5 claims 1 to 3, characterized in that said connecting part
(12) comprises two longitudinal members (14, 20) whose
first ends (16, 22) are connected together so that said
members may pivot relative to each other and the middle
10 parts of their two facing faces are adapted to bear on
respective opposite sides of said rod (10), said
adjustable locking means (36) being adapted to drive the
second ends (18, 24) of said longitudinal members
forcibly towards each other and to fix them in position
relative to each other so that said two members form a
15 clamp and grip said rod, whereby said connecting part can
be fixed in position relative to said rod.

5. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 4,
characterized in that said second ends (18, 24) of the
20 two longitudinal members (14, 20) have, facing each
other, a bore (34) in one and a thread (38) in the other,
so that a screw (36) may be passed through said bore and
screwed into said thread to form said adjustable locking
means.

25 6. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 3 and
either claim 4 or claim 5, characterized in that said
first end (44) of said ligature is fastened to the pivot
(32) of said longitudinal members (14, 20).

30 7. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 2 and any
one of claims 4 to 6, characterized in that at least one
of the middle parts of said two facing faces (50, 52) has
a first portion (56) through which said passage passes
35 and a second portion (58) adapted to bear against said
rod.

8. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 7,
characterized in that said passage (48) extends between
two orifices (40, 54) in said connecting part (12) and
opening to the outside of said part so that said ligature
5 (42) is able to slide through said part.

9. A vertebral fixing system according to claim 8,
characterized in that each of said middle parts of said
two longitudinal members (14, 20) includes an orifice
10 (40, 54).

10. A vertebral fixing system according to either claim 8
or claim 9, characterized in that said passage (48) has a
section that decreases from one orifice (44) to the other
15 (50) so as to be able to exert a progressive pressure on
said ligature portion (42) between said two orifices to
press it against said rod (10).

11. A vertebral fixing system according to any one of
20 claims 1 to 10, characterized in that said ligature
consists of a strip of flexible material.